

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-33 are pending in the application. Claims 1-20 and 31-33 have been allowed. Claims 21, 26 and 27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoon in view of Ichiyoshi et al. Claims 23-25, 29 and 30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoon in view of Ichiyoshi in further view of Toyofuku et al. Claim 22 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoon in view of Ichiyoshi in further view of Bachmann. Reconsideration and reexamination of the application in view of the amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

The present invention is directed to a viewfinder that is rigidly mounted on a camera having a video signal tap. The viewfinder includes a support base assembly that mounts to the camera and extends laterally away from the camera. A pivot member connected to the support base assembly can rotate with respect to the support base assembly, and a locking mechanism on the pivot member locks the pivot member in place with respect to the support base assembly. The pivot member includes a socket with an electrical connector. A viewing module releasably connected to the socket extends rearwardly along the side of the camera and includes a CRT electrically connected to the video signal tap through the electrical connector so that an operator can view the scene being filmed while the camera is supported on a tripod. The socket rigidly attaches the viewing module to the camera and maintains the viewing module in a fixed relationship to the camera when the socket is either releasably connected directly to the viewing module or releasably connected to the viewing module through a rigid extension module. The rigid extension module extends the viewing module even more in the rearward direction. This is important when the camera is supported on a tripod and the operator is positioned more to the rear of the camera than when the camera is supported on a shoulder of the operator.

Claims 21, 26 and 27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoon in view of Ichiyoshi. Claim 21 has been amended. With the amendment to claim 21, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection has been overcome.

Yoon fails to disclose, teach or suggest a socket formed in the pivot member that includes an electrical connector, as recited in amended claim 21. Yoon also contains no disclosure at all related to a socket that rigidly attaches the viewing module to the camera and maintains the viewing module in a fixed relationship to the camera when the socket is either releasably connected directly to the viewing module or releasably connected to the viewing module through a rigid extension module, as recited in amended claim 21.

Yoon discloses a viewfinder attached to a camera through a mechanical holder, not an electrical connector. The viewfinder may be detached from the mechanical holder and camera but still electrically and physically connected to the camera through a flexible cable 30, which enables the viewfinder to be positioned in any relationship to the camera, such as on the head of an operator. When the camera is connected to the viewfinder through the flexible extension cable 30, the camera is not rigidly attached to the viewfinder nor maintained in a fixed relationship to the camera. Thus, Yoon actually teaches away from rigidly attaching the viewfinder to the camera and maintaining the viewfinder in a fixed relationship to the camera.

Ichiyoshi also fails to disclose, teach or suggest a socket formed in the pivot member that includes an electrical connector, or a socket that rigidly attaches the viewing module to the camera and maintains the viewing module in a fixed relationship to the camera when the socket is either releasably connected directly to the viewing module or releasably connected to the viewing module through a rigid extension module, as recited in amended claim 21. Ichiyoshi discloses a grip rotatably coupled to the camera, and is not concerned at all about a viewing module, a socket with an electrical connector for the viewing module, or a rigid extension module for the viewing module.

Because neither Yoon nor Ichiyoshi discloses, teaches or suggests all of the limitations of amended claim 21, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claim 21 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoon in view of Ichiyoshi has been overcome. In addition, because claims 26 and 27 depend from claim 21, the rejection of those claims has been overcome for the same reasons provided above with respect to claim 21.

Claims 23-25, 29 and 30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoon in view of Ichiyoshi in further view of Toyofuku. Claims 23-25, 29 and 30 depend from amended claim 21. With the amendment to claim 21, it is respectfully submitted that this rejection has been overcome.

As discussed above, neither Yoon nor Ichiyoshi disclose, teach or suggest a socket formed in the pivot member that includes an electrical connector, or a socket that rigidly attaches the viewing module to the camera and maintains the viewing module in a fixed relationship to the camera when the socket is either releasably connected directly to the viewing module or releasably connected to the viewing module through a rigid extension module, as recited in amended claim 21.

Toyofuku also fails to disclose, teach or suggest a socket formed in the pivot member that includes an electrical connector, or a socket that rigidly attaches the viewing module to the camera and maintains the viewing module in a fixed relationship to the camera when the socket is either releasably connected directly to the viewing module or releasably connected to the viewing module through a rigid extension module, as recited in amended claim 21. Toyofuku discloses a mechanical mounting mechanism for a viewfinder that provides adjustments in two directions perpendicular to each other, and is not concerned at all about a socket with an electrical connector for connecting to the viewing module, or a rigid extension module for the viewing module.

Because neither Yoon nor Ichiyoshi nor Toyofuku discloses, teaches or suggests all of the limitations of amended claim 21, and because claims 23-25, 29 and 30 depend from claim 21, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 23-25, 29 and 30 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoon in view of Ichiyoshi in further view of Toyofuku has been overcome.

Claim 22 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoon in view of Ichiyoshi in further view of Bachmann. Claim 22 depends from amended claim 21. With the amendment to claim 21, it is respectfully submitted that this rejection has been overcome.

As discussed above, neither Yoon nor Ichiyoshi disclose, teach or suggest a socket formed in the pivot member that includes an electrical connector, or a socket that rigidly attaches the

viewing module to the camera and maintains the viewing module in a fixed relationship to the camera when the socket is either releasably connected directly to the viewing module or releasably connected to the viewing module through a rigid extension module, as recited in amended claim 21.

Bachmann also fails to disclose, teach or suggest a socket formed in the pivot member that includes an electrical connector, or a socket that rigidly attaches the viewing module to the camera and maintains the viewing module in a fixed relationship to the camera when the socket is either releasably connected directly to the viewing module or releasably connected to the viewing module through a rigid extension module, as recited in amended claim 21. Bachmann discloses a mechanical mounting mechanism for a viewfinder that prevents inadvertent rotation of the viewfinder unless the viewfinder is lifted away from a tower block, and is not concerned at all about a socket with an electrical connector for connecting to the viewing module, or a rigid extension module for the viewing module.

Because neither Yoon nor Ichiyoshi nor Bachmann discloses, teaches or suggests all of the limitations of amended claim 21, and because claim 22 depends from claim 21, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claim 22 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoon in view of Ichiyoshi in further view of Bachmann has been overcome.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.


If, for any reason, the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, Applicant requests that the Examiner contact the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles telephone number (213) 892-5752 to discuss any steps necessary to place the application in condition for allowance.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of

such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit**  
**Account No. 03-1952** referencing Docket No. 490962002000.

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Respectfully submitted,

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